

PROCLAMATION YEAR OF THE MUSEUM 2006

WHEREAS, museums nourish minds and spirits by fostering contemplation, exploration, critical thinking and dialogue to advance knowledge, understanding and appreciation of history, science, the arts and the natural world; and

WHEREAS, museums present exhibitions and programs created through research and scholarship for people to explore new ideas, exchange stories and discover collections and objects from our cultural and natural heritage; and

WHEREAS, museums strengthen and enrich the lives of people by inspiring lifelong learning, serving as repositories and stewards for our unique histories, culture, achievements and values, and contributing to the livability and economic vitality of our communities and state; and

WHEREAS, museums forge relationships with community partners, such as schools, libraries, public broadcasting, and neighborhood and social service organizations to foster civic participation and cultural understanding; and

WHEREAS, museums have been serving the American public since 1773, encouraging curiosity and providing a source of enjoyment and education for every generation; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's museums provide citizens with a source of inspiration and education, and an awareness of and appreciation for our state's history and culture.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim 2006, the **YEAR OF THE MUSEUM** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State